DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 058 285 TM 001 000

AUTHOR Frary, Robert B.; Goolsby, Thomas M., Jr.
TITLE Classification of Students According to Father's Occupation (Occupation of Mother or Guardian if Father is Absent).
PUB DATE Oct 71
NOTE 4p.

EDRS PRICE MF-$0.65 HC-$3.29
DESCRIPTORS *Classification; *Fathers; Occupational Clusters; *Occupations; Professional Occupations; Skilled Occupations; *Socioeconomic Background; *Students; Unskilled Occupations

ABSTRACT

This three-point classification scheme reflects the socioeconomic status of the child's family. The teacher classifies each student according to the father's occupation: professional, skilled, or unskilled. Detailed guidelines for classification are included. Studies in which this scheme was used are listed. (MS)

ED 058285

CLASSIFICATION OF STUDENTS ACCORDING TO FATHER'S OCCUPATION (OCCUPATION OF MOTHER OR GUARDIAN IF FATHER IS ABSENT)

Robert B. Frary
Virginia Polytechnic Institute

Thomas M. Goolsby, Jr.
University of Georgia

This classification scheme reflects the socioeconomic status of the child's family. To obtain this information, each teacher classifies each student according to the father's occupation on a three point scale. Category I includes those whose occupation might generally be classified as "professional." For the most part, these occupations are ones which required at least a bachelor's degree for admission. Category 2, which may be referred to as "skilled," includes occupations requiring substantial training and ability for success but not at the level of the first category. Category 3, "unskilled," included those jobs which require little preparation or training, are relatively low-paying and offered little security.

This classification scheme does not offer the degree of differentiation available from scales demanding higher levels of training for the rates, such as the Hollingshead (1958) or Warner (1949) scales. Nevertheless, teachers knowing the community as they do can place their students quite accurately as coming from homes representing one of the three categories just described. It is felt that the additional effort required to obtain a more precise classification would not result in a substantially more accurate classification in field research and for most purposes for which such a classification system might be needed by public school teachers and administration to make analyses, decisions, and judgments.

This scheme was used in analyses of variance in the following studies:

1) Goolsby, Thomas M., Jr., and Frary, Robert B., "Enhancement of Educational Effect Through Extensive and Intensive Intervention--The Gulfport Project." Mimeographed. Prepared for the Gulfport Municipal Separate School District, July 1969, and in ERIC, Research in Education, Vol. 6, No. 5, May 1971, ED 047 012 or TM 000 387.

TM 001 000

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, & WELFARE
OFFICE OF EDUCATION
THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN REPRODUCED EXACTLY AS RECEIVED FROM THE PERSON OR ORGANIZATION ORIGINATING IT. POINTS OF VIEW OR OPINIONS STATED DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT OFFICIAL OFFICE OF EDUCATION POSITION OR POLICY.

2) Goolsby, Thomas M., Jr. and Robert B. Frary, "Use of an Individualized Reading Program Under Voluntary Complete Integration: Effects on Third Grade Pupils and Teachers," Center for Educational Improvement, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia, 30601.

References

Hollingshead, August B. and Redlich, Frederick C. Social Class and Mental Illness, New York: John Wiley and Sons, 1958, pp. 398-407.

Warner, W. L., Meeker, M. and Eells, K. Social Class in America (Chicago: Science Research Associates, 1949).

CLASSIFICATION OF STUDENTS ACCORDING TO FATHER'S OCCUPATION
(OCCUPATION OF MOTHER OR GUARDIAN IF FATHER IS ABSENT)

Robert B. Frary
Virginia Polytechnic Institute

Thomas M. Goolsby, Jr.
University of Georgia

The following guidelines are present with the realization that in some cases the teacher may have to make a judgment without full command of the facts regarding the occupational status of a parent or guardian. In such cases, no additional investigation should be made. Rather the teacher should classify the student according to her perception of the student's family background based on observation throughout the year. Because an occasional rating may therefore be inaccurate, it is essential that the finished rating sheet be shown only to personnel directly involved in processing the research findings. Of course, all responses will be held in strictest confidence and will be used only for group evaluation.

Classification 1: The student's father (or guardian if the father is absent) holds a professional or managerial position. Such jobs usually but not always require at least a bachelor's degree. Examples are:

Accountants (senior or CPA)
Clergymen
Commissioned officers
County agents
Engineers or scientists
Lawyers
Medical doctors
Nurses (registered)
Proprietors or managers or substantial businesses or farms
Teachers

If in doubt as to whether a person belongs in this classification, the holding of a bachelor's degree is the best criterion on which to base the decision if this fact is known. If not, try to judge the level of association in the community. For example, a life insurance salesman who sells mainly large policies to the financially affluent segment of the community probably belongs in this classification. One who sells mainly small policies (perhaps on a weekly collection basis) would not.

Classification 2: The student's father (or guardian) holds a regular, full-time job which requires training, knowledge and skill but not at the college level. Examples are:

Agricultural specialists (not college trained)
Automobile mechanics or other skilled tradesmen
Bookkeepers
Clerical and related workers
Draftsmen
Police officers
Postmen
Practical nurses or other non-professional health therapists
Sales personnel in retail stores (if training and knowledge are required, but not lower level sales clerks)
Service personnel (barbers, beauticians, bartenders, cooks, but not lower level waiter or waitress positions)
Supervisory personnel for lower level workers (foremen, etc.)

Classification 3: The student's father (or guardian) holds a job (or jobs) which require only casual or short-term training. These jobs are usually of low prestige and relatively low paying. Examples are:

Agricultural workers (field hands, etc.)
Domestic workers (household servants)
Laborers (construction, etc.)
Laundry workers
Service and sales personnel in lower positions

If in doubt as to whether a job belongs in this category, the primary criteria are lack of any requirement for prior training, a short training period and little raise in pay following training.